

patient, and for the physician-patient relationship. With the 30 day notice a physician can work with the patient and the local pharmacist to determine which drugs are suitable alternatives. It will also give the physician the opportunity to educate the HMO plan when he has a patient that has shown little or no progress with any of the alternatives on the plan's approved drug list.

I want you all to understand that this can be a life saving decision. Just last week I learned of a cancer patient that was experiencing great success with a drug that shrinks tumors. After paying for three treatments, the HMO arbitrarily removed the drug from their coverage list without any warning to the patient or physician. Because traditional treatments had not worked, by the time the appeal process was completed the patient was dead. Let's not allow this tragedy to repeat itself—support the Patient Protection Act.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF CHOWCHILLA

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to The City of Chowchilla. This year marks the 75th Anniversary of the founding of Chowchilla, a thriving community in the County of Madera. Chowchilla is a productive and progressive community leading the way into the 21st Century.

In 1912, Chowchilla began to emerge from a cattle ranch of 108,000 acres to what would become a busy community rich in agriculture and commerce. In 1913, the conversion of the vast cattle ranch to diversified farming began. It was at this time when the first bank was started, the first school building was erected, and the first church was organized. A community newspaper was established and water was brought forth from 33 artesian wells.

The year 1914 brought further growth to the city and its facilities when the Chowchilla Pacific Railroad was completed. Electroliners were installed on two streets for a distance of a mile. Shortly thereafter, the community held its first fair, founded the Woman's Improvement Club and organized the first baseball team.

Today, The City of Chowchilla has grown to a population of 4,500 people and is a thriving agriculture and manufacturing community whose grain, cotton and dairy products make the city a vital element of California's economy.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to the City of Chowchilla on its 75th Anniversary. Chowchilla is a flourishing agricultural and commercial community leading the way into the 21st Century. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the City of Chowchilla many more years of success.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT "BUDDY" LOCHRIE UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 1998

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to bring to the attention of my colleagues the distinguished career of a friend, fellow Floridian and outstanding community leader. I am speaking of Robert "Buddy" Lochrie, Jr., who will retire from his position as Vice Chairman of Sun Trust, South Florida, N.A., at the end of the month.

Buddy is the third generation of a prominent family in Broward County, Florida. His grandfather, John Lochrie, began annual visits in 1917, built a home in 1923 and developed several citrus groves west of Fort Lauderdale and Fort Pierce. In 1928 he joined the group which organized the Broward Bank and Trust Company and became its first president, a position he held until his death in 1937.

Buddy's father, Robert B. Lochrie, was a director of the bank for forty-two years, and a founder and director of each affiliate bank. He was one of the founders of Broward Bancshares, Inc., of which he served as chairman from 1970 to 1976. Both John Lochrie and Robert B. Lochrie served as officers without compensation, other than regular directors' fees.

Buddy was elected to the boards of three affiliated banks in the Broward group in 1968, while serving as assistant to U.S. Congressman Paul G. Rogers in Washington, DC. In 1970, he was asked to join the company to handle regulatory, governmental and community affairs. Subsequently, he served as Executive Vice President, Treasurer and as a member of the board. After the merger with Sun Banks of Florida in 1983, he became Chairman and CEO of SunBank, South Florida and Vice Chairman when this bank and the Palm Beach SunBank merged.

During his career, Buddy has served as Chairman of the Florida Bankers Association Federal Legislative Committee and a director of the American Bankers Association Political Action Committee, as well as chairman of the Banking Division of the state association.

Statewide activities have included serving on the boards of the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation, the Judicial Nominating Commission and the Florida Christopher Columbus Commission, as a Trustee of the Florida State Ringling Museum of Art.

From 1993 to 1996, Buddy served on the Board of Community Health Purchasing Alliance (CHIPA), District 10, at the request of the Governor of Florida. CHIPA was set up by the State Agency for Health Care Administration to expand health insurance coverage to small business owners and their employees.

Buddy has been Chairman of the Broward Center Performing Arts Foundation since its inception more than twelve years ago. During his tenure, the Foundation has raised more than twenty-three million dollars to support the Center and its programming. This achievement set a new milestone in the amount of money raised for a single purpose building campaign in Broward County.

Buddy's local community involvement also includes: Chairman of Fort Lauderdale Downtown Development Authority, Chairman of the

Broward Chapter of the National Conference of Christian and Jews, Vice Chairman of the South Florida Community Television Foundation (Channel 2), Broward Chair of the Archbishop's Charities Drive, Vice Chairman of the Broward Workshop, Board Member of the Urban League of Broward, Board Member of the United Way of Broward County, Board Member of Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, Board Member Florida Philharmonic Orchestra, Board Member of South Florida Sports Authority, Board Member of Museum of Art, Member of the Opera Guild, Member of the Port Everglades Association.

Buddy is married to Susan Fry of Fort Lauderdale, and this year they celebrated their thirty-first wedding anniversary. They have three children. Two sons, Robert and Glenn, were born in Washington, DC, and a daughter, Katherine (Kate), was born in Fort Lauderdale. All three children have made Broward County their permanent home. Susan and Buddy share many of the same civic interests. Susan is a guidance counselor at Central Park Elementary and was recognized in 1997-1998 as guidance Counselor of the Year for Broward County.

This is indeed a record of outstanding achievement and community involvement. I wish Buddy and his family much happiness and success in the future.

UNFAIRNESS IN TAX CODE: MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 1998

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight what is arguably the most unfair provision in the U.S. Tax code: the marriage tax penalty. I want to thank you for your long term interest in bringing parity to the tax burden imposed on working married couples compared to a couple living together outside of marriage.

I would also like to commend the leadership of House budget Chairman Kasich for including elimination of the marriage tax penalty as a top priority in his budget resolution. The Republican House Budget Resolution will save a penny on every dollar and use those savings to relieve families of the marriage penalty and restore a sense of justice to every man and woman who decides to get married.

Many may recall in January, President Clinton gave his State of the Union Address outlining many of the things he wants to do with the budget surplus.

A surplus provided by the bipartisan budget agreement which: cut waste; put America's fiscal house in order; and held Washington's feet to the fire to balance the budget.

While President Clinton paraded a long list of new spending totaling at least \$46-\$48 billion in new programs—we believe that a top priority should be returning the budget surplus to America's families as additional middle-class tax relief.

This Congress has given more tax relief to the middle class and working poor than any Congress of the last half century.

I think the issue of the marriage penalty can best be framed by asking these questions: Do Americans feel its fair that our tax code imposes a higher tax penalty on marriage? Do

Americans feel its fair that the average married working couple pays almost \$1,400 more in taxes than a couple with almost identical income living together outside of marriage? Is it right that our tax code provides an incentive to get divorced?

In fact, today the only form one can file to avoid the marriage tax penalty is paperwork for divorce. And that is just wrong!

Since 1969, our tax laws have punished married couples when both spouses work. For

no other reason than the decision to be joined in holy matrimony, more than 21 million couples a year are penalized. They pay more in taxes than they would if they were single. Not only is the marriage penalty unfair, it's wrong that our tax code punishes society's most basic institution. The marriage tax penalty exacts a disproportionate toll on working women and lower income couples with children. In many cases it is a working women's issue.

MARRIAGE PENALTY EXAMPLE IN THE SOUTH SUBURBS

	Machinist	School teacher	Couple	Weller/McIntosh II
Adjusted gross income	\$30,500	\$30,500	\$61,000	\$61,000
Less personal exemption and standard deduction	6,550	6,550	11,800	13,100
Taxable income	23,950	23,950	49,200	47,900
	(X .15)	(X .15)	(Partial X .28)	(X .15)
Tax liability	3592.5	3592.5	8563	7,185

Notes: Marriage penalty: \$1,378.

Weller-McIntosh II Eliminates the Marriage Tax Penalty—Relief: \$1,378.

But if they chose to live their lives in holy matrimony, and now file jointly, their combined income of \$61,000 pushes them into a higher tax bracket of 28 percent, producing a tax penalty of \$1400 in higher taxes.

On average, America's married working couples pay \$1,400 more a year in taxes than individuals with the same incomes. That's serious money. Millions of married couples are still stinging from April 15th's tax bite and more married couples are realizing that they are suffering the marriage tax penalty.

Particularly if you think of it in terms of: a down payment on a house or a car; one years tuition at a local community college; or several months worth of quality child care at a local day care center.

To that end, Congressman DAVID MCINTOSH and I have authored the Marriage Tax Penalty Elimination Act.

The Marriage Tax Penalty Elimination Act will increase the tax brackets (currently at 15% for the first \$24,650 for singles, whereas married couples filing jointly pay 15% on the first \$41,200 of their taxable income) to twice that enjoyed by singles; the Weller-McIntosh proposal would extend a married couple's 15% tax bracket to \$49,300. Thus, married couples would enjoy an additional \$8,100 in taxable income subject to the low 15% tax rate as opposed to the current 28% tax rate and would result in up to \$1,053 in tax relief.

Additionally the bill will increase the standard deduction for married couples (currently \$6,900) to twice that of single (currently at \$4,150). Under the Weller-McIntosh legislation the standard deduction of married couples filing jointly would be increased to \$8,300.

Our new legislation builds on the momentum of their popular H.R. 2456 which enjoyed the support of 238 cosponsors and numerous family, women and tax advocacy organizations. Current law punishes many married couples who file jointly by pushing them into higher tax brackets. It taxes the income of the families' second wage earner—often the women's salary—at a much higher rate than if that salary was taxed only as an individual. Our bill already has broad bipartisan cosponsorship by Members of the House and a similar bill in the Senate also enjoys widespread support.

It isn't enough for President Clinton to suggest tax breaks for child care. The President's child care proposal would help a working couple

afford, on average, three weeks of day care. Elimination of the marriage tax penalty would give the same couple the choice of paying for three months of child care—or addressing other family priorities. After all, parents know better than Washington what their family needs.

We fondly remember the 1996 State of the Union address when the President declared emphatically that, quote “the era of big government is over.”

We must stick to our guns, and stay the course.

There never was an American appetite for big government.

But there certainly is for reforming the existing government does business.

And what better way to show the American people that our government will continue along the path to reform and prosperity than by eliminating the marriage tax penalty.

Ladies and Gentleman, we are on the verge of running a surplus. It's basic math.

It means Americans are already paying more than is needed for government to do the job we expect of it.

What better way to give back than to begin with mom and dad and the American family—the backbone of our society.

We ask that President Clinton join with Congress and make elimination of the marriage tax penalty . . . a bipartisan priority.

Of all the challenges married couples face in providing home and hearth to America's children, the U.S. tax code should not be one of them.

Lets eliminate The Marriage Tax Penalty and do it now!

WHICH IS BETTER?

NOTE: The President's Proposal to expand the child care tax credit will pay for only 2 to 3 weeks of child care. The Weller-McIntosh Marriage Tax Elimination Act HR 2456, will allow married couples to pay for 3 months of child care.

Which is better, 3 weeks or 3 months?

CHILD CARE OPTIONS UNDER THE MARRIAGE TAX ELIMINATION ACT

	Average tax relief	Average weekly day care cost	Weeks day care
Marriage tax elimination act	\$1,400	\$127	11

Let me give you an example of how the marriage tax penalty unfairly affects middle class married working couples.

For example, a machinist, at a Caterpillar manufacturing plant in my home district of Joliet, makes \$30,500 a year in salary. His wife is a tenured elementary school teacher, also bringing home \$30,500 a year in salary. If ythey would both file their taxes as singles, as individuals, they would pay 15%.

CHILD CARE OPTIONS UNDER THE MARRIAGE TAX ELIMINATION ACT—Continued

	Average tax relief	Average weekly day care cost	Weeks day care
President's child care tax credit	358	127	2.8

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 1998

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 283, I was unavoidably detained on official business. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay.”

RECOGNIZING BRYCE WEAVER

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 6-year old Bryce Weaver of Fort Collins, Colorado who recently won second place in the fourth-annual Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators Contest. “The Colors of the Rainbow” by Weaver was chosen from more than 340 entries. The Contest was sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Public Broadcasting Network Inc., which airs the Reading Rainbow children's series on KRMA-TV.

Weaver, a kindergartner at Krause Elementary School in Fort Collins, enjoys story telling and is excited to learn to read books on his own. Weaver's mom, Laura helped by writing down the story her son told her. Weaver used crayons for the illustrations. I commend to the Members of the 105th Congress, Bryce's creative story.

“THE COLORS OF THE RAINBOW”

(By Bryce Weaver)

“Once there was a rainbow who was sad because he didn't have any colors. So he went on a journey to find some colors and make himself beautiful.